AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

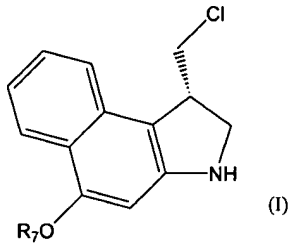
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-6 **canceled**

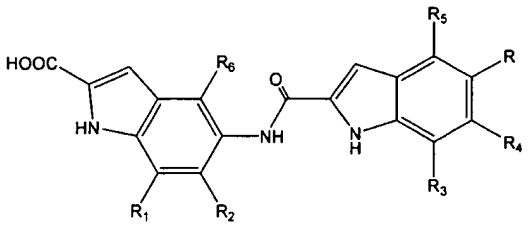
7. **(previously presented):** A prodrug formed from a first subunit of formula (I) covalently linked to a second subunit of formula (V) via an amide bond from the secondary amino group of the pyrrole moiety of the first subunit to the C-2 carboxyl of the second subunit,

wherein the formula (I) is as follows:



(I)

wherein the formulae (V) is as follows:



(V)

wherein R represents a moiety that enables linkage of said prodrug to a cell binding agent;

wherein R_1-R_6 are each independently hydrogen, C_1-C_3 linear alkyl, methoxy, hydroxyl, primary amino, secondary amino, tertiary amino, or amido;

and wherein R_7 is a piperazino carbamate or a 4-piperidino-piperidino carbamate.

8. **(original):** The prodrug of claim 7, wherein R comprises a thiol or a disulfide bond.

9. **(original):** The prodrug of claim 7, wherein R_1-R_6 are hydrogen.

10. **canceled**

11. **(original):** The prodrug of claim 10, wherein R represents a moiety that enables linkage of the prodrug to a cell binding agent via a disulfide bond.

12-24. **canceled**

25. **(previously presented):** A composition comprising the prodrug of claim 7 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

26. **(withdrawn):** A method for treating a subject by inhibiting the growth of cells of or by killing cells of a selected cell population, comprising administering to a subject in need ~~thereof~~ of treatment an effective amount of the composition of claim ~~6 or~~ 25.

27. **canceled**

28. **(original):** The prodrug of claim 7 wherein said linker comprises polyethylene glycol of the formula $-(-O(CH_2)_2)_n-$, wherein n is an integer from 2 to 1000.

29. **(previously presented):** The prodrug of claim 7 wherein R is selected from the group consisting of $NHCO(CH_2)_mSZ$, $NHCOC_6H_4(CH_2)_mSZ$, $NHCOC_6H_4O(CH_2)_mSZ$, $NHCO(CH_2)_m(OCH_2CH_2)_nSZ$, $NHCOC_6H_4(CH_2)_m(OCH_2CH_2)_nSZ$, and $NHCOC_6H_4O(CH_2)_m(OCH_2CH_2)_nSZ$ wherein: Z represents H or SR_8, wherein R_8 represents methyl, linear alkyl, branched alkyl, cyclic alkyl, simple or substituted aryl or heterocyclic

selected from the group consisting of furyl, pyrrollyl, pyridyl, and thiophene, m represents an integer of 1 to 10, and n represents an integer of 4 to 1000.

30. **(previously presented):** The prodrug of claim 7 wherein R is selected from the group consisting of $NHCO(CH_2)_m(OCH_2CH_2)_nSZ$, $NHCOC_6H_4(CH_2)_m(OCH_2CH_2)_nSZ$, and $NHCOC_6H_4O(CH_2)_m(OCH_2CH_2)_nSZ$ wherein: Z represents H or SR_8, wherein R_8 represents methyl, linear alkyl, branched alkyl, cyclic alkyl, simple or substituted aryl or heterocyclic selected from the group consisting of furyl, pyrrollyl, pyridyl, and thiophene, m represents an integer of 1 to 10, and n represents an integer from 2 to 1000.

31. **(previously presented):** The prodrug of claim 29, wherein R is selected from the group consisting of $NHCO(CH_2)_2SH$, $NHCO(CH_2)_2SSCH_3$, $NHCO(CH_2)_2(OCH_2CH_2)_nSH$ and $NHCO(CH_2)_2(OCH_2CH_2)_nSSCH_3$.